

**CLEAN SET OF REPLACEMENT CLAIMS**

Sub B  
Q1

1. (Amended) A method for retail check-out comprising the steps of:  
establishing a communication link between (a) a self-checkout station incorporating a customer-operated automated payment-accepting subsystem and (b) a data storage unit in which a plurality of data records are stored, each of the plurality of data records corresponding to a respective one of a plurality of identifiers that was read by a portable data reading unit before the communication link was established;  
inputting the plurality of data records from the data storage unit via the communication link established in the establishing step;  
determining a price total for a plurality of items corresponding to the plurality of identifiers based on the plurality of data records inputted in the inputting step; and  
accepting payment for the plurality of items based on the price total determined in the determining step,  
wherein the step of accepting payment is performed using the customer-operated automated payment-accepting subsystem.

Q2

5. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the portable data reading unit comprises a barcode reader selected from a group consisting of: a flying spot scanner, an optical imaging reader, and a wand reader.

Q3

13. (Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the step of linking comprises a step of placing the portable reading unit into a cradle on the self-checkout station.

Q4

16. (Amended) A self-checkout station comprising:  
a data input port that inputs a plurality of data records from a portable data storage unit;  
a first controller that determines a price for a plurality of items corresponding to the plurality of data records inputted via the data input port; and  
a non-portable customer-operated automated payment-acceptor that generates an output signal based on an amount of tendered payment,

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A4 wherein at least one of the first controller and the automated payment-acceptor generates an indication when a tendered payment is sufficient to pay the price determined by the first controller.

A5 18. (Amended) The self-checkout station of claim 17, wherein the portable data reading unit comprises a barcode reader selected from a group consisting of: a flying spot scanner, an optical imaging reader, and a wand reader.

A6 26. (Amended) The system of claim 25, wherein the identifiers are barcodes, the data reader identifies the selected items by reading the barcodes, and the data reader comprises a barcode reader selected from a group consisting of: a flying spot scanner, an optical imaging reader, and a wand reader.

A7 34. (Amended) The system of claim 33, wherein the data reader identifies the selected items by reading barcodes, and the data reader comprises a barcode reader selected from a group consisting of: a flying spot scanner, an optical imaging reader, and a wand reader.

A8 37. (Amended) The system of claim 33, wherein the base station memory stores a price look-up table, and wherein a total price for selected items is computed based on a price look-up table.